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Building
Permits

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BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES ADVANCE WITH A SURGE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, November 25 - - Building permits in the nation's 200 largest cities increased 9.3 per cent in March, to $2,652,435,406 from $2,425,794,216 the month before, reports Dun & Bradstreet. Permits also exceeded by 7.1 per cent their year-ago level of $2,476,939,618.

New York accounted for most of the monthly and year-to-year gains that were seen in the 200 cities as a whole. Plans filed by builders in New York surged to $272,511,228 in March, more than quadrupling February's $65,139,270 reading and zooming almost sevenfold above March 1979's $39,471,431. The latest lofty figure for New York comes after two very strong showings at the end of 1979, roughly $342 million in November and $213 million in December. Aside from the November filings, which marked a ten-year high for the city, March 1980's plans were the largest since the $274 million mark nearly reached during August 1971.

Permit valuations in the 199 cities outside New York rose only a slight eight-tenths of one per cent between February and March, inching to $2,379,924,178 from $2,360,654,946. While activity in San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Detroit slowed considerably from the accelerated pace of a month-earlier, permits jumped sharply in Houston and Chicago. Issuances in the 199 cities actually slipped 2.4 per cent, however, when compared with $2,437,468,397 registered in the same month of 1979. This was the first time in nine months that permits in the 199 cities trailed year-earlier levels. Running in an opposite direction, Miami Beach, Alexandria, New Haven, and Saginaw had huge hikes in dollar volume - - at least on a percentage basis - - from the previous year.

In the 200 cities, permits issued builders during the first quarter of 1980 totalled some $7,317,678,150 or 23.2 per cent more than the $5,941,506,928 for the first quarter of 1979. Houston led the nation with an aggregate of just under $525 million. Of the top twenty-five cities (with the largest three-month totals) fully eight posted improvements of better than 100 per cent.

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2. MARCH BUILDING PERMIT VALUES

MONTHLY TOTAL OF BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES

	1980	1979	1978	1977
January.....	$ 2,239,448,528	$ 1,746,778,126	$ 1,555,200,317	$ 1,155,317,475
February....	2,425,794,216	1,717,789,184	1,566,122,444	1,346,506,159
March.....	2,652,435,406	2,476,939,618	2,181,040,038	1,831,077,441
April.....		2,451,179,009	1,970,502,609	1,670,684,353
May.....		2,777,967,467	2,184,409,484	1,848,109,958
June.....		2,773,160,539	3,175,380,926	2,112,508,861
July.....		2,680,322,050	2,374,622,719	1,786,583,619
August.....		2,986,549,135	2,096,290,105	1,983,733,131
September...		2,825,024,489	2,197,718,509	1,720,913,053
October.....		2,899,533,662	2,305,383,414	1,802,807,510
November....		2,495,786,359	2,050,242,106	1,827,177,094
December....		2,184,572,996	1,809,134,416	1,908,713,368
TOTAL		$30,015,602,634	$25,466,047,087	$20,994,132,022

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Of the 200 cities included in this series the twenty-five with the largest building permit values for the first three months of 1980 were:

		(Millions of Dollars) Three Months 1980	% Change Three Months 1980
1.	Houston, Texas	524.2	- 11.7
2.	Los Angeles, California	455.5	+ 32.7
3.	New York, New York	378.6	+ 276.8
4.	San Francisco, California	261.0	+ 315.3
5.	Chicago, Illinois	204.1	+ 34.8
6.	Dallas, Texas	191.2	- 31.4
7.	Phoenix, Arizona	169.6	- 0.5
8.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	157.3	+ 316.2
9.	Seattle, Washington	150.2	+ 102.7
10.	San Diego, California	149.8	+ 8.7
11.	Honolulu, Hawaii	142.7	+ 38.3
12.	Atlanta, Georgia	127.8	+ 274.6
13.	Austin, Texas	115.2	- 8.1
14.	Washington, D.C.	108.3	+ 129.8
15.	San Jose, California	95.0	+ 26.3
16.	Memphis, Tennessee	94.9	+ 177.9
17.	Indianapolis, Indiana	88.5	+ 10.2
18.	Boston, Massachusetts	84.0	+ 42.9
19.	Jacksonville, Florida	76.4	+ 61.9
20.	Portland, Oregon	75.5	+ 23.7
21.	Detroit, Michigan	71.2	+ 23.7
22.	Tulsa, Oklahoma	70.6	+ 24.5
23.	San Antonio, Texas	69.9	- 22.0
24.	Baltimore, Maryland	68.7	+ 122.0
25.	Devner, Colorado	65.2	+ 6.0

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES FOR THE 200 LARGEST CITIES BY POPULATION AS RECORDED IN THE 1970 CENSUS. THE FIGURES REPRESENT ESTIMATED BUILDING COSTS UNDER PERMITS ISSUED TO PROSPECTIVE BUILDERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS FOR THE CITIES ENUMERATED. THEY INCLUDE NEW RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. LAND COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE DATA ARE COMPILED FROM REPORTS FURNISHED TO DUN & BRADSTREET BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS CITIES.

RANK BY SIZE		MARCH 1980	THREE MONTHS 1980	THREE MONTHS 1979
1.	NEW YORK, NEW YORK*			
	MANHATTAN	221,741,900	273,868,789	40,994,755
	BRONX	7,389,560	10,399,210	4,338,600
	BROOKLYN	25,941,600	38,004,450	12,693,860
	QUEENS	10,488,290	27,575,462	17,162,110
	RICHMOND	6,949,878	28,758,220	25,301,078
	TOTAL NEW YORK CITY	272,511,228	378,606,131	100,490,403
2.	CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	119,526,754	204,110,876	151,427,265
3.	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	120,235,366	455,476,800	343,196,752
4.	PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	27,721,434	157,311,805	37,800,986
5.	DETROIT, MICHIGAN	4,998,531	71,172,477	57,526,217
6.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	237,411,498	524,156,933	593,936,402
7.	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	44,133,293	68,700,218	30,952,366
8.	DALLAS, TEXAS	58,682,988	191,194,176	278,628,469
9.	WASHINGTON, D.C.	46,031,901	108,334,456	47,136,988
10.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	8,076,762	26,468,889	10,770,729
11.	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	63,131,454	88,519,568	80,291,756
12.	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	19,812,778	37,241,126	19,562,600
13.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	43,926,164	261,039,921	62,862,698
14.	SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	56,828,605	149,803,023	137,828,474
15.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	28,283,956	69,851,634	89,547,243
16.	BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	52,126,200	84,048,200	58,835,637
17.	MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	16,351,935	94,917,691	34,151,857
18.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	12,253,604	41,617,818	14,207,888
19.	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	8,991,199	31,427,441	53,001,280
20.	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	57,195,810	169,647,105	170,490,523
21.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	26,925,898	61,586,393	40,701,222
22.	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	36,756,532	150,219,878	74,094,074
23.	JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	18,803,142	76,390,345	47,189,935
24.	PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA	8,919,278	21,979,849	36,798,531
25.	DENVER, COLORADO	18,712,470	65,184,428	61,502,643
26.	KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	13,518,760	25,446,942	25,131,103
27.	ATLANTA, GEORGIA	26,123,774	127,777,388	34,114,223
28.	BUFFALO, NEW YORK	8,971,106	10,451,748	8,340,985
29.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	6,242,809	29,922,415	32,186,074
30.	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	16,746,079	43,763,945	37,500,049
31.	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	36,518,454	94,960,413	75,199,014
32.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	18,406,723	59,058,752	92,787,164
33.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	17,797,300	53,598,801	54,903,922
34.	TOLEDO, OHIO	4,901,137	23,295,306	22,709,589
35.	PORTLAND, OREGON	17,397,435	75,518,580	61,053,850
36.	NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	3,569,650	5,388,719	11,005,605
37.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA	19,781,687	54,994,917	68,175,915
38.	OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA	5,147,370	14,607,886	24,282,943
39.	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	3,644,070	14,966,788	6,734,338
40.	LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA	14,517,090	37,025,412	24,792,547
41.	OMAHA, NEBRASKA	9,638,456	18,178,713	35,597,494
42.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	11,002,046	37,950,133	38,293,675
43.	TULSA, OKLAHOMA	17,531,524	70,585,062	56,694,050
44.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	35,807,243	142,674,855	103,133,729
45.	EL PASO, TEXAS	18,347,176	56,939,740	50,748,136
46.	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	4,220,893	23,834,367	19,728,633
47.	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	2,222,409	10,715,109	8,106,113
48.	BRIMINGHAM, ALABAMA	19,672,462	42,931,050	21,211,919
49.	ROCHESTER, NEW YORK	5,498,998	13,484,444	4,202,900
50.	TAMPA, FLORIDA	16,604,941	51,560,547	23,597,216
51.	WICHITA, KANSAS	8,022,933	29,617,534	37,659,240
52.	AKRON, OHIO	5,317,961	14,883,957	5,754,779
53.	TUCSON, ARIZONA	10,429,395	36,101,006	39,290,549
54.	JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY	13,758,088	16,213,088	6,297,500
55.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA	6,952,236	30,743,711	71,306,972
56.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	47,443,000	115,182,650	125,363,681
57.	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	10,064,954	43,580,525	10,109,039
58.	ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	9,115,242	42,963,088	61,689,217
59.	DAYTON, OHIO	11,674,961	19,633,755	19,993,650
60.	CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	11,721,539	34,650,316	29,764,205
61.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA	3,795,300	25,650,590	20,103,835
62.	CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	10,630,392	54,025,461	42,762,424
63.	YONKERS, NEW YORK	2,485,045	6,534,705	6,106,569
64.	DES MOINES, IOWA	1,277,370	6,712,245	13,457,396
65.	GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN	1,337,885	16,921,555	8,966,920
66.	SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	200,000	2,448,347	3,875,256
67.	FLINT, MICHIGAN	6,069,362	7,857,372	13,295,074
68.	MOBILE, ALABAMA	6,682,277	32,596,641	20,173,954
69.	SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA	9,638,916	19,111,934	23,362,940
70.	WARREN, MICHIGAN	379,180	831,241	1,146,762
71.	PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	2,069,200	6,873,800	8,538,100
72.	FORT WAYNE, INDIANA	12,600,911	36,346,624	14,483,224
73.	WORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS	2,302,173	9,907,218	1,833,343
74.	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	3,967,643	19,708,462	21,651,587
75.	GARY, INDIANA	497,487	1,942,079	3,997,540
76.	KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	4,055,154	14,601,894	13,480,292
77.	MADISON, WISCONSIN	7,941,198	12,914,479	16,678,359
78.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA	17,176,122	46,983,879	60,101,586
79.	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	9,693,998	27,260,941	16,803,689
80.	KANSAS CITY, KANSAS	593,558	2,942,264	17,565,968
81.	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA	17,313,723	37,312,638	18,764,042
82.	FRESNO, CALIFORNIA	11,934,502	40,806,509	57,029,958
83.	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	11,327,239	33,678,745	32,303,953
84.	SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS	1,817,083	13,343,569	10,299,901
85.	HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	7,360,078	19,802,252	9,950,901
86.	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA	5,977,864	17,198,367	18,683,684
87.	BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT	1,437,503	3,550,109	4,850,081
88.	TACOMA, WASHINGTON	4,455,512	12,750,196	21,711,381
89.	COLUMBUS, GEORGIA	2,139,304	36,713,252	13,914,807
90.	JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI	8,626,908	20,915,738	19,632,963
91.	LINCOLN, NEBRASKA	3,406,352	18,642,080	9,284,344
92.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	6,443,088	17,419,470	24,758,310
93.	ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS	2,550,336	13,716,946	7,367,631
94.	PATERSON, NEW JERSEY	1,088,305	10,753,701	5,120,234
95.	GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA	6,544,543	14,949,956	12,045,003
96.	RIVERSIDE, CALFIRONIA	6,015,407	15,187,974	12,140,891
97.	YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	447,637	1,448,169	742,936
98.	FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA	4,962,000	39,604,940	11,187,455
99.	EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	792,339	3,128,021	5,818,844
100.	NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA	3,021,724	5,591,707	13,285,871
101.	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	3,904,965	28,313,847	15,376,616
102.	NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	22,736,250	31,899,465	1,896,672
103.	COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO	13,878,666	50,636,711	40,966,210
104.	TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA	2,913,890	10,456,890	6,165,390
105.	MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA	7,654,700	22,495,300	24,899,300
106.	WINSTON-SALEM, NO. CAR	6,811,245	29,975,753	16,678,581
107.	GLENDALE, CALFIORNIA	7,162,324	23,758,126	30,755,410
108.	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	9,994,378	21,741,769	45,467,130
109.	LANSING, MICHIGAN	887,762	4,841,141	10,919,720
110.	ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA	4,420,280	4,775,378	9,541,630
111.	AMARILLO, TEXAS	4,814,722	45,903,582	15,441,448
112.	PEORIA, ILLINOIS	3,727,947	12,772,339	8,854,537
113.	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	7,054,674	36,649,176	43,947,806
114.	SOUTH BEND, INDIANA	641,085	6,611,541	14,232,423
115.	TOPEKA, KANSAS	1,815,766	4,514,331	10,814,665
116.	GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA	5,423,161	8,505,938	8,103,564
117.	MACON, GEORGIA	3,305,143	9,782,656	17,577,027
118.	RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA	5,433,495	31,516,767	25,849,388
119.	HAMPTON, VIRGINIA	1,439,331	6,316,610	7,224,116
120.	SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI	3,589,658	11,405,882	20,749,800
121.	CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE	8,256,772	29,045,449	11,905,057
122.	SAVANNAH, GEORGIA	1,413,278	11,499,452	9,973,906
123.	BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA	1,105,559	15,033,141	5,493,169
124.	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA	6,418,967	14,945,161	14,360,765
125.	BEAUMONT, TEXAS	9,523,214	20,598,474	24,133,987
126.	ALBANY, NEW YORK	1,638,262	2,900,609	2,531,933
127.	COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA	8,042,128	19,775,392	3,293,755
128.	PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	2,087,152	2,054,851	18,169,072
129.	ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY	2,546,513	3,121,398	1,704,530
130.	INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI	5,926,498	7,643,731	6,780,088
131.	PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	1,128,241	3,894,640	7,039,131
132.	ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA	33,920,092	42,880,090	11,889,811
133.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	1,729,792	5,624,835	13,401,322
134.	LIVONIA, MICHIGAN	1,906,799	6,318,818	8,994,668
135.	CANTON, OHIO	1,710,914	4,632,545	13,775,569
136.	ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA	1,129,336	3,655,341	2,038,169
137.	STAMFORD,CONNECTICUT	8,205,800	14,649,160	22,198,374
138.	LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY	11,409,234	24,660,478	23,243,804
139.	WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT	7,162,134	7,725,939	1,546,964
140.	HAMMOND, INDIANA	502,530	1,577,510	13,710,068
141.	STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA	10,762,315	19,822,713	34,346,303
142.	HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA	4,541,262	51,570,935	13,149,077
143.	TRENTON, NEW JERSEY	379,911	2,270,331	1,027,960
144.	SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA	6,337,105	19,111,000	16,420,557
145.	DEARBORN, MICHIGAN	817,903	4,089,739	16,613,938
146.	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVNIA	495,355	7,642,370	1,174,777
147.	CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY	116,624	353,948	716,671
148.	HIALEAH, FLORIDA	1,139,658	7,176,515	11,765,430
149.	NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS	696,179	2,807,504	2,722,510
150.	FREMONT, CALIFORNIA	8,773,200	20,703,500	30,193,500
151.	DULTUH, MINNESOTA	9,974,316	13,793,794	5,213,417
152.	CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS	2,767,161	24,995,757	2,765,239
153.	PARMA, OHIO	1,038,000	1,394,400	1,901,800
154.	ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN	3,759 421	12,068,116	6,169,327
155.	ORLANDO, FLORIDA	27,643,937	45,202,361	17,783,052
156.	DAVENPORT, IOWA	2,532,630	5,711,732	7,671,204
157.	WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS	4,580,945	12,340,777	11,801,620
158.	PUEBLO, COLORADO	2,181,363	4,103,438	10,708,353
159.	IRVING, TEXAS	16,264,905	49,256,964	16,911,510
160.	FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS	113,895	484,395	838,119
161.	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA	3,130,115	7,148,071	9,905,100
162.	SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA	4,999,367	23,575,986	22,015,382
163.	WACO, TEXAS	1,963,379	26,066,063	27,779,109
164.	RACINE, WISCONSIN	251,256	923,961	3,489,767
165.	LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS	350,006	10,037,831	12,906,050
166.	HAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA	4,016,355	21,547,431	11,687,345
167.	LAKEWOOD, COLORADO	4,697,725	17,984,453	17,934,771
168.	ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	1,746,437	8,225,153	5,266,217
169.	SAGINAW, MICHIGAN	15,530,154	17,041 294	1,843,625
170.	NORWALK, CALIFORNIA	1,093,010	1,891,000	1,444,790
171.	SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS	2,247,781	4,221,109	11,116,835
172.	UTICA, NEW YORK	363,084	1,107,374	184,309
173.	NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS	359,422	1,380,125	2,912,912
174.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	30,819,467	62,758,132	61,275,477
175.	DECATUR, ILLINOIS	3,350,883	5,468,944	9,867,961
176.	LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS	426,975	1,700,666	656,771
177.	INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	2,263,619	15,035,814	4,087,580
178.	ABILENE, TEXAS	4,343,787	17,666,720	17,321,817
179.	CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA	2,673,203	16,405,302	15,183,254
180.	PASADENA, TEXAS	2,551,739	12,516,552	13,912,089
181.	BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS	317,770	835,145	3,737,877
182.	BURBANK, CALIFORNIA	8,042,504	29,181,465	12,166,172
183.	SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS	361,846	993,247	618,220
184.	DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA	2,550,056	5,657,722	5,449,791
185.	SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA	4,336,898	18,865,002	17,869,089
186.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN	145,795	1,010,120	468,300
187.	QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS	8,048,625	9,035,211	1,082,305
188.	GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN	1,913,554	4,500,882	11,087,429
189.	MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE	2,062,104	2,813,309	6,744,755
190.	SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA	4,160,307	10,156,667	34,387,957
191.	READING PENNSYLVANIA	526,467	2,633,198	2,297,061
192.	POMONA, CALIFORNIA	5,319,469	10,127,111	21,868,919
193.	MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA	60,888,247	69,619,066	13,622,693
194.	WESTLAND, MICHIGAN	1,561,241	2,185,758	2,523,104
195.	SIOUX CITY, IOWA	433,231	2,160,234	3,084,260
196.	FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA	680,692	4,451,235	19,774,471
197.	NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK	511,589	1,225,445	963,458
198.	KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN	499,062	3,374,745	7,181,087
199.	ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN	1,067,700	1,559,980	2,935,985
200.	PONTIAC, MICHIGAN	15,808,443	43,683,054	33,641,933
	TOTALS: 200 LARGEST CITIES Listed Above	2,652,435,406	7,317,678,150	5,941,506,928

P = Preliminary
R = Revised